

## Holifield's View Of Geneva Like The President's

By Carroll Kilpatrick

The United States should be prepared to resume clear testing at an early date but should continue to negotiate at Geneva for a test ban treaty, Chairman Chet Holifield (D-Calif.) of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy told the House yesterday.

Holifield's statement was interpreted here as a major warning to the Russians that testing will be resumed unless progress is made at Geneva.

While Holifield did not claim to speak for the Administration, his position and the President's are known to be similar in many respects.

There may be differences of emphasis and timing between Holifield and the President, but the Administration is moving toward a decision and it is moving along the lines Holifield outlined to the House yesterday.

There still are some in the Administration who believe that it may not be to this country's advantage militarily to resume testing, but this is a minority position not shared by Holifield or the Joint Committee.

If the United States had secret testing, Mr. Holifield said, others think highly likely the comment against a resumption of testing is invalid. "I am a great believer," he said, "in the right of the United States to do what it wants to do." He said that America had made a "grave mistake" that seriously embarrassed the United States in its efforts to reach a test ban agreement, Press reported.

He stated that the original suggestion of India offered by the United States was based on one test shot in Nevada. Two later tests allowed that blasts had been four times as great as originally believed, in order to recompute the yield. He said the overshoot was due to the Russians' refusal to accept the corrected American formula.

Holifield said that the United States, which had agreed to a ban of 32 infra-red tests a year ago, He said

that if Russia has not been secretly testing,

Far-reaching scientific developments, as revolutionary as the development of the H-bomb in 1952, are being considered at the present time and the key to progress lies in testing, Holifield said.

Just back from Geneva after attending a series of negotiating sessions on a test ban treaty, Holifield said the United States "cannot" continue indefinitely with "futile" negotiations.

Chairman of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, Rep. Chet Holifield (D-Calif.) of the House, told him in Vienna that the test ban negotiations appeared futile.

Mr. Kennedy has said he was most reluctant to order a resumption of tests, but Holifield said he believed the West already has "gone the last mile" in an attempt to reach an agreement.

Wandered to Paris

The Joint Committee chairman conferred with the President in Paris the night before the President flew to Vienna for his meeting with Khrushchev.

In making his proposal, Holifield said the question of timing should be left to the President.

"In my opinion," Holifield said, "the United States has nothing to gain from cancelling the Geneva negotiations, or even setting a deadline on the discussions. In the past months the United States has developed considerable stature in world opinion from its efforts to reach an agreement."

"I believe we should proceed to negotiations in good faith, or to be available to negotiate in the event a recess or adjournment occurs."

"But I believe also that concurrently we should proceed with the things that need to be done in our testing program. This would mean that we should proceed to get in readiness to resume underground weapons tests whenever the President determines that our national defense requires it." There is obvious concern here over world reaction to a resumption of tests.

As the President said in a speech to United Press International editors here last week, "nuclear testing and the fall-out of these tests would cause a good deal of concern to the world around us... I want it to be perfectly clear that

length to reach such an agreement."

Holifield told the House that world opinion is becoming more favorable to the United States. If tests are resumed, he said, "our motives and purposes will be distorted" and world opinion may be "inflamed." There may even be an unfavorable United Nations resolution.

But he argued, "If national security is at stake, this may have to be the price we pay."

Steps should immediately be taken, Holifield said, to proceed with research and development programs on seismic detection to include tests of underground shots.

The Soviets should have full access to the devices and the information derived from the experiments," he said, because such information "is a necessary and important part of any test ban system."

Holifield praised Republican members of the Joint Committee for the nonpartisan spirit in which they have considered the problem and called on others to "exercise restraint in this period of sober consideration."

### Expects People's Support

"I believe the Congress and the people are ready to support the President at a time and in a method of his choosing," Holifield said.

On the other side of the Capitol, Rep. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.) went further, calling for immediate resumption of tests. He described the moratorium as a "fatal blunder" that has cost the Nation in peril.

Dodd, a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, said in response to questions: "The moratorium was wrong because we were neglecting our security." Noting on the preposterous assumption that an organization of communists and murderers and liars, which has visited virtually every agreement into which it has entered, would for some strange reason respect its commitments, as a reciprocal moratorium.

Dodd contended it is inevitable that if the Soviet country does not, they ultimately will develop "means for destroying us at relatively small risk to themselves."

In that connection Dodd discussed a possible "neutron bomb," which he described as a sort of death ray that would do little physical damage and result in no contamination.

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